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*MarineFisheries* Advisory

#### WHITE SHARK UPDATE

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As of Friday morning, October 1<sup>st</sup>, the white shark is still located in the waters within Naushon Island in a section known as the Southwest Gutter. Scientists with the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (*MarineFisheries*) are working with experienced Cape Cod commercial weir fishermen this morning to set nets across the channel with the hope that this will break the shark's pattern of swimming up and down the inlet. Sharks generally avoid weir netting and will turn around if they come into contact with the nets. For the safety of the shark, the netting that is being employed is older one-inch nylon mesh that should break easily in the event that the shark decides to swim through it. Researchers and fishermen began setting the first net at 10:00 a.m. this morning.

As the shark moves closer to the expected egress point near the southwest point of Monohansett Island, fishermen and scientists plan to place successive sets of the weir netting further south, hoping to drive the animal out of the channel into open water. *MarineFisheries* is also employing the use of special prods known as shark shields (more information at <http://www.sharkshield.com>), which produce electric current in the water designed to keep sharks away from a specific spot. Officials wish to remind media and the public of the need for strict adherence to the safety zone established by *MarineFisheries* Director Diodati and the U.S. Coast Guard for the safety of both the shark and people. The Coast Guard and the Massachusetts Environmental Police are on scene enforcing access restrictions in the vicinity.